

# THE SPOTLight

News From Councilmember Sherri Lightner

City of San Diego, District One

July 10, 2012

## Representing the communities of:

- Black Mountain Ranch
- Carmel Valley
- Del Mar Mesa
- La Jolla
- Pacific Highlands Ranch
- Rancho Peñasquitos
- Torrey Highlands
- Torrey Hills
- Torrey Pines
- University City

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## Plug Pulled on Proposed UC Power Plant

Thanks to the strong response from the community, Sherri was able to help stop a proposed power plant in University City from going forward.

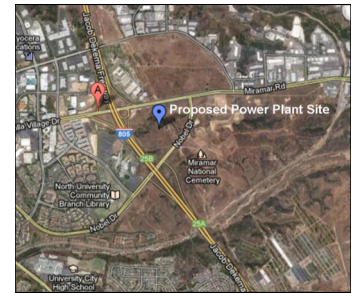
Capital Power, a Canadian company, is hoping to build a 350- to 800-megawatt power plant in University City near Nobel Drive and Interstate 805.

This location is just 2,000 feet from a dense residential neighborhood as well as the Nobel Rec Center and the North University City Library. Congregation Beth Israel is just a half-mile away and University City High School is three-quarters of a mile away.

To further its goal of building a power plant at this location, Capital Power had planned on asking the City Council to place a ballot measure for a long-term lease on this property on the November 2012 ballot.

The united opposition from UC residents and from Councilmember Lightner has convinced Capital Power to slow down the process and conduct an extensive community outreach program.

While Sherri appreciates Capital Power's willingness to work with the community, she remains opposed to a power plant at this location, which is



*The proposed power plant near the intersection of Nobel Drive and I-805.*

so close to homes, parks, schools and companies.

"It's the wrong site for so many reasons. It's bad for the community; it's bad for business and it's bad for the environment," Sherri said. "This issue is far from over. I urge everyone to stay informed and stay involved."

## Increased Funding for Hire-A-Youth Initiative

To help close San Diego's job skills gap, Sherri worked with the Mayor's office and her Council colleagues to pledge \$200,000 in funding to revive San Diego's Hire-A-Youth program.

The aim of Hire-A-Youth is to give teens and young adults access to summer jobs and internship opportunities as well as provide help with job

readiness training, résumé writing and interview skills. In recent years, federal funding has dwindled and the program was in need of new funding sources to help it expand.

Sherri believes programs like this one are critical to ensure San Diego has the workforce it needs to grow the local economy now and into the future. Because of that, Sherri is do-

nating \$25,000 from her office budget to the program.

"This really is an investment in our future," Sherri said. "We need to grow our Hire-A-Youth program so all of our teens and young adults have the job skills they need to be a productive part of our local workforce."



*Sherri listens to Amelia Opean talk about the importance of San Diego's free beach wheelchair program.*

## New Beach Wheelchairs

Sherri joined fellow councilmembers, community groups and advocates for those with disabilities on June 14 to unveil the addition of three new beach wheelchairs just in time for the busy summer months.

The new additions will help keep up with demand for San Diego's free beach wheelchair program — something that is popular with locals and tourists alike.

The chairs, which have oversized wheels to make it easier to travel over sand, are available to members of the public

at lifeguard towers in La Jolla Shores, Mission Beach, Ocean Beach and Pacific Beach.

The push for the new chairs started with Amelia Opean, a paraplegic since a devastating car accident when she was 15 years old.

An avid ocean swimmer, Opean was having a hard time reaching the water because the beach wheelchair at La Jolla Shores was out of commission.

Opean started a fundraising drive to repair the wheelchair and the La Jolla Shores Surfing

Association matched the money she raised.

To ensure there is always a wheelchair at the beach, Sherri partnered with Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer and Councilmember Todd Gloria to donate funds out of their office budgets to purchase three additional chairs.

"These beach wheelchairs can be life-changing," Sherri said. "We get letters from people saying that because of this program, they were able to put their feet in the ocean for the first time in 20 years."

*"Sherri is asking city staff to investigate this issue and provide further analysis on the city's response times."*

## Pothole Repair Times Unacceptable

A recent news article found that the city's response times on citizen-reported potholes were much longer than had been previously stated.

"If this news report is accurate, it is incredibly troubling," Sherri said. "We need to get to the bottom of this."

To that end, Sherri has joined her Council colleagues in asking city staff to investigate this issue to provide further analysis on the city's response times and identify ways to improve them.

Sherri knows that the condition of our streets is a top priority for the constituents of District 1

and all San Diegans.

Any constituent who reports a pothole through Sherri's office is informed about the status of their request and her staff constantly monitor those requests. To report a problem, call (619) 236-6611 and ask for Janie Hoover.



*Sherri with La Jolla community members announcing the La Jolla Post Office's status as one of the most endangered historic places in the United States.*

## Update: La Jolla's Historic Post Office

The La Jolla Post Office received some much-deserved recognition when the National Trust for Historic Preservation named it one of the 11 most endangered historic places in the country on June 6.

Despite the designation, the La Jolla Post Office, located on Wall Street, is still on the United States Postal Services' list of planned closures.

The U.S. Postal Service had announced earlier this year that they planned to sell the 77-year-old property and close the facility to help generate revenue and cut costs.

The local Save Our Heritage Organisation also has named the La Jolla Post Office to its most endangered list.

Sherri is opposed to the closing

of the historic Post Office and has been working with the community and the U.S. Postal Service to find a solution that benefits all parties.

"The La Jolla Post Office is too important historically and to La Jolla's residents and businesses to be closed down," Sherri said. "We can and will find a way to create a win-win situation for everyone."

## Sherri Around Town in June



*On June 10, Sherri celebrated Flag Day at Hilltop Park in Rancho Peñasquitos along with newly elected District 5 Councilmember Mark Kersey and community leader T.J. Zane.*

*Sherri joined Councilmember Lorie Zapf in declaring June 19 Snigdha Nandipati day in San Diego in honor of our city's national spelling bee award winner.*



*Sherri joined John Stump, chair of the San Diego Sierra Club, on June 21 at the group's Annual Gala Celebration and Awards Dinner.*

*Sherri at the Fox 5 Studios with Council President Tony Young on June 18 to talk about the city's investment in the Hire-A-Youth program.*



## Water Policy in Action: Visit to Seabreeze Organic Farms

Ensuring that San Diego has an affordable and sustainable water supply is one of Sherri's top priorities.

To better understand how current rate structures are affecting local businesses, Sherri recently spent time at Seabreeze Organic Farms in Carmel Valley.

Stephenie Caughlin, who has operated the farm since 1978,

has seen her water bills increase from just \$200 a month 15 years ago to \$2,500 a month now — despite decreasing her water use by 20 percent.

Sherri wants to reform rate structures and encourage conservation to help lower water costs. She also believes San Diego needs to embrace cutting-edge technologies to create a long-term water supply.

"Affordable water is critical to San Diego's future," Sherri said.



*Sherri with Stephenie Caughlin of Seabreeze Organic Farms.*

*"Sherri wants to reform rate structures and encourage conservation to help lower water costs."*

## Local Business Spotlight: Amici's East Coast Pizzeria

Every month Sherri likes to highlight a new or unique business in District 1.

Here's this month's selection:

**Who:** Amici's East Coast Pizzeria

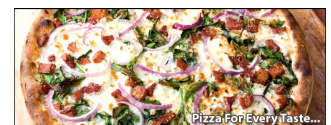
**Where:** 811 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 92037

**What you'll find:** East Coast-style pizza cooked at 700 degrees in a brick oven to deliver a thin, crisp and chewy crust. There are also fresh salads and pasta dishes.

**The upside:** The La Jolla location, which opened in May, is the 13th restaurant in the Amici

chain and the first one outside of the Bay Area. The owners said they jumped at the chance to open in La Jolla, describing it as a perfect match for its brand.

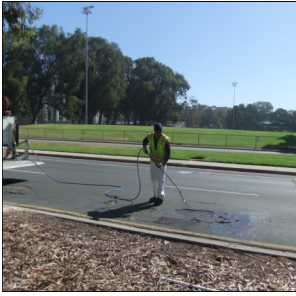
Amici's also delivers in La Jolla, University City, Sorrento Valley, Pacific Beach and Bay Ho.



*Find East Coast style pizza right here in California at Amici's on Prospect in La Jolla.*



## Working for You in the Community



*Need assistance in getting a pothole fixed? Call Sherri's office at (619) 236-6611. We are here to help.*

Helping constituents get potholes filled, streetlights fixed and other neighborhood repairs is one of Sherri's top priorities. Here is a sampling of projects her office worked on this past month:

### Potholes

- Asphalt repair on Del Mar Scenic Pkwy., near Caminito del Canto
- 6214 Lakewood St.
- 5680 Linda Rosa Ave.
- Right-hand lane of westbound Turquoise St. at La Jolla Blvd.
- Asphalt repairs on La Jolla Rancho Rd., from La Jolla

Mesa Dr. to La Jolla Scenic Dr. South

- Agee St. and Zenako St.
- Asphalt repairs on Rutgers Rd., near Vista Claridad
- Asphalt repairs at the cul-de-sac on Nogales Dr.
- Eastbound N. Torrey Pines Rd. at Torrey Pines Rd.
- Agee St., south of Karesue Ave.
- Via Sonoma, south of Via Alicante
- Asphalt repairs on La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, from Via Posada to Sugarman Dr.

### Cleanups and Repair

- Red curb striping painted at

La Jolla Hermosa Ave. and Forward St.

- Red curb striping repainted on Via Terceto, Via Nieve, Via Candidiz and Via Holgura
- Graffiti removed from beach access stairs on Bird Rock Ln.
- Graffiti removed from retaining wall at Prospect St. & Torrey Pines Rd.
- V-calm speed sign repaired at Rue de Anne and Via Capri

### Streetlights and Traffic Signals

- Streetlight repaired at Nautilus St. and Aranda Ave.
- Traffic signal timing corrected at La Jolla Village Dr. and La Jolla Scenic Dr. North

Sherri is on the Web at

[sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/](http://sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/)

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**Councilmember  
Sherri Lightner — District 1**

202 C Street, MS 10-A  
San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: (619) 236-6611  
Fax: (619) 236-6999  
E-mail:  
[serrilightner@sandiego.gov](mailto:sherrilightner@sandiego.gov)

### Your Community Representatives

If you have a concern or question about an issue in your neighborhood, please contact our constituent services representative, Janie Hoover, or your community representative. We're here to help!

**Torrey Hills/Black Mountain Ranch/Rancho Penasquitos/Torrey Highlands/Constituent Services (street repairs, water leaks, traffic issues, code compliance, etc.)**

Janie Hoover      [jmhoover@sandiego.gov](mailto:jmhoover@sandiego.gov)      (619) 236-6611

#### **La Jolla**

Erin Demorest      [edemorest@sandiego.gov](mailto:edemorest@sandiego.gov)      (619) 236-6611

#### **Torrey Pines**

Mo Kantner      [mkantner@sandiego.gov](mailto:mkantner@sandiego.gov)      (619) 236-6611

#### **University City / UCSD**

Jesse Mays      [jmays@sandiego.gov](mailto:jmays@sandiego.gov)      (619) 236-6611

#### **Carmel Valley / Pacific Highlands Ranch / Del Mar Mesa**

Mel Millstein      [mmillstein@sandiego.gov](mailto:mmillstein@sandiego.gov)      (619) 236-6611